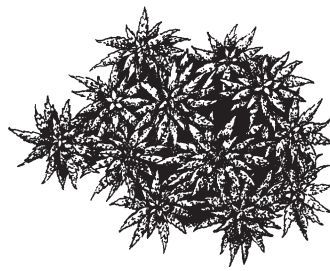




**BRITISH  
SOLDIER  
LICHEN**

I am a small, slow growing plant. All lichens are a combination of two plants—fungus and algae which need each other to survive. I am a ground cover with small, red caps— which is how I got my name.



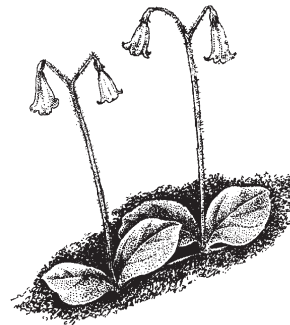
**SPHAGNUM  
MOSS**

I am a small green plant which forms large spongy floating mats. When I decay, I form peat. I grow in a near sterile environment that is very acidic.



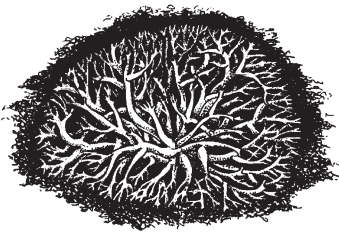
**PITCHER  
PLANT**

I am a short plant, which lives in wet areas surrounded by moss. I love to eat meat! The soil I live in has so few nutrients that I must get them from another source. I attract insects with my fragrance. When the insects land on the lip of my pitcher-shaped leaves, they slide down the pointing hairs which direct them to the bottom of my pitcher. There they become liquefied in an enzyme and bacteria mixture. My cells then absorb the liquid. An insect shakel



**TWINFLOWER**

I am a delicate little plant with pairs of pink nodding flowers. I grow on the forest floor among the thick piles of pine needles.



**REINDEER  
LICHENS**

I grow on patches of thin soil covering the bedrock usually found in older forests. I am a combination of fungus and algae and grow in coral-like clusters that can be any shade of yellow, gray, or green. My nicknames are “reindeer moss,” “caribou lichen,” and “caribou moss” because I am the primary food for the caribou that live up north.



**INTERRUPTED  
FERN**

I am a large fern with unusual leaves. I prefer to grow in rich, shaded woods, but I also grow in open, drier areas.



**NEEDLE  
SPIKE RUSH**

I am a low, grass-like plant and grow in large mats near water. You are likely to find me along the edges of ponds, lakes, marshes and in shallow waters. Tiny white flowers grow in spikes on my stems. Ducks and geese enjoy eating the small straw-colored seeds I produce.



**BEAKED  
SEDGE**

I am a large, grass-like plant that grows near or in the water. My leaves are wide, flat and long. I can grow up to four feet tall. You are most likely to find me in wet meadows, marshes, edges of lakes, ponds, and streams. I start growing along the shore and weave a mat with my roots that extends out over the water like a shelf. I have spiky-looking flowers that produce seeds the ducks and geese love to eat. Red-winged blackbirds like to perch on me.



**WHITE PINE**

I am a large evergreen with long, soft needles in bundles of five. Before being logged, I used to cover large areas of what is now the BWCAW. I can grow over 225 feet tall.



**BALSAM FIR**

I am an evergreen with short, flat, waxy, single needles. I grow in the shade of leaf-bearing trees. I am also found in the company of tamarack trees.



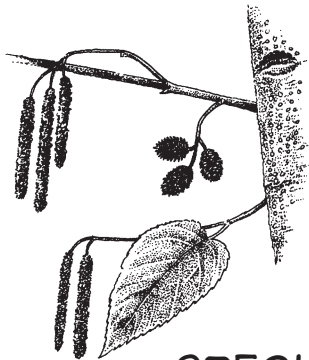
**PAPER BIRCH**

I am recognized by my white papery bark. I like full sunlight and grow well after a forest fire or after logging.



**TAMARACK**

I am a conifer because I have cones and needles instead of leaves and flowers. When autumn arrives my needles turn gold like those of a deciduous tree and fall off. My fallen needles pile up on the spongy moss around my trunk and roots.



**SPECKLED ALDER**

I am a shrub which grows in clumps up to 16 feet high. I like to grow in wet, rich soil. Sometimes my branches scrape the sides of canoes that pass.



**QUAKING ASPEN**

I have leaves that flutter in the wind. I grow next to the red pine or in areas that have been logged. I am also called "Trembling Aspen, Poplar, or Popple."



**BLUEBERRIES**

I ripen in July and August. I have adapted to grow in many different areas as long as I am not under water. People and bears like to eat me right off the bush.



**BLACK SPRUCE**

I am a small pointy tree or shrub with drooping branches, dark bluish-green needles and scaly, grayish-brown bark. You are most likely to find me in wet areas like bogs and swamps, but sometimes I will grow in areas that are a little drier. I am a popular place for squirrels and birds of many types to perch, nest, and gather food. My fallen branches provide homes for shrews, garter snakes, and salamanders.



**BEARBERRY**

I am an evergreen shrub with clusters of pink or white bell-shaped flowers than become bright red fruit. My leaves are shiny and oblong. I like to grow in sunny, dry, well-drained places like rocky hill sides, open pine forests and forest clearings. Bears and many types of birds enjoy my berries.



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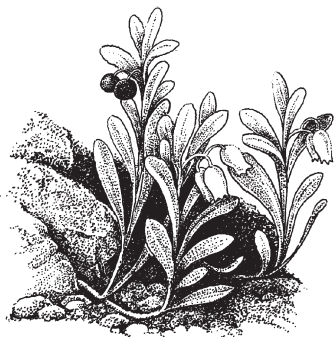
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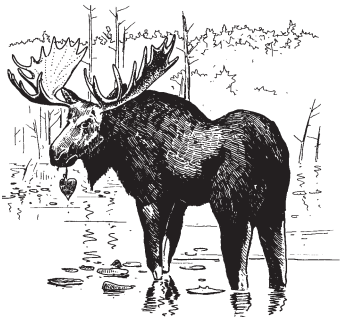
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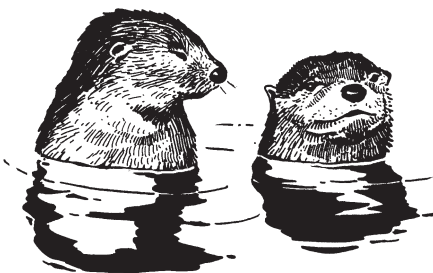
## MOOSE

I am the largest mammal in the BWCAW. Fully grown, I weigh 1,200 pounds or more! The Ojibwe named me "moose," which means "twig eater." My favorite twigs are willow, aspen, birch, mountain maple, beaked hazel, dogwood, and balsam fir. In the summer months I eat pond weed, bur weed, and water lilies. To survive I eat 50-60 pounds of food each day.



## BEAVER

I am a fur-bearing animal with a flat tail. I thrive in, near, and around the water. My favorite foods are alder, willow, maple, aspen, and birch. In order to bring water closer to my food, I build dams, which make the surrounding area flood. I can then easily swim to the trees I eat. I build my lodge in the middle of a pond or on the shore of a large lake.



## RIVER OTTER

I am long and sleek with webbed feet that help me swim fast and smoothly. I spend most of my day searching for meals of fish, frogs, and crayfish.



## ROCK VOLE

I am a small, round, and furry rodent. I may look like a mouse, but I have short ears and a short tail.

I live in rocky areas where I can find seeds, grasses, and small insects to eat. I need to eat all the time because my teeth constantly grow; the grass that I eat helps wear down my teeth so that they do not grow too long.



## BLACK BEAR

I love nuts and berries, but will also eat grass, leaves, and buds. Sometimes ant hills, mice, and bird's nests are treats I can't pass by. And I will risk being stung on the nose for a bee's nest full of honey.



**SPRUCE  
GROUSE**

I am a speckled, chicken-like bird that loves to browse on spruce, fir, and jack pine buds and needles. I also enjoy the leather leaves of the heath plant which grows in very cold, wet areas. I eat in the upper canopy of the forest, as well as on the ground, which is where you will also find my nest.



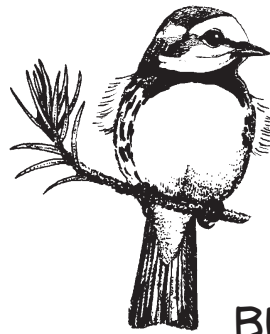
**COMMON  
LOON**

I am an excellent swimmer and diver because I have webbed feet and powerful legs that are set far back on my body. I nest on the water's edge where I have easy access to food yet can quickly get back into the water when threatened.



**BARRED OWL**

I am the most common species of owl to inhabit the north woods. I need tall trees for roosting and nesting, but the area beneath the trees (the understory) needs to be fairly open. I need this extra space so I can fly and attack my prey. Mice are my favorite things to eat.



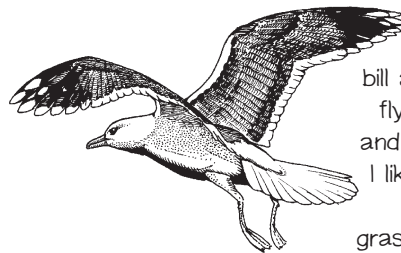
**BLACK-  
THROATED  
GREEN WARBLER**

I am a colorful little bird who comes to the north woods to breed in the summer. I eat insects. I build my nest 15 feet or higher among the prickly branches. I can be identified by my call which sounds like zee zee zee zoo zee.



**GREAT BLUE  
HERON**

I am a very tall, blue-gray, long-legged bird. My wing span can be as large as six feet. I can be found hunting for fish, small rodents, birds, reptiles and amphibians along lakes, ponds, rivers, meadows. I stalk my prey and then stab it with my long yellow bill. I nest in big trees, high cliff ledges or rock outcroppings along with several others in a colony of nests called a rookery.



**HERRING  
GULL**

I am a white bird with light gray on my back and wings, black on my wing tips, a yellow bill and pinkish legs. You can find me flying around lakes, rivers, islands, and exposed rocky shorelines where I like to breeds on terraces, grassy hummocks, lakeside cliffs, and grassy islands scavenging for anything from berries to eggs and young of other gulls to eat. I look for terraces, grassy hummocks, lakeside cliffs and grassy islands for making my nest.



**RAVEN**

I am a large black bird with a thick black bill and a deep croaking voice. I like to soar over cliffs, forest, and rocky shorelines. I like to eat little fish in shallow rivers, rodents, eggs, grain and carrion. I build a big nest of sticks, moss and lichens on a tall tree or cliff.

## EASTERN GARTER SNAKE

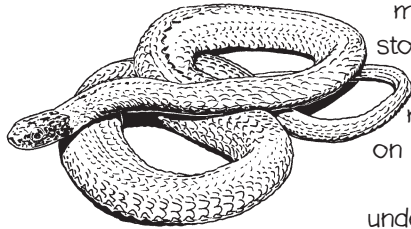


I am the most common snake found in the BWCAW. I am not poisonous, nor are any of the other snakes found there. I got my name because I look like the striped garters that men used to wear to hold up their socks. I eat toads, frogs, insects, worms, mice, tadpoles, and minnows.



## WOOD FROG

I am found as far north as the Arctic Circle. I have a biological antifreeze that allows me to freeze solid during the winter. After I thaw in the early spring, I breed in small ponds that are formed by melting snow in the woods. I spend my time among the damp leaves and soil of the deep woods because my skin must stay moist.



## RED-BELLIED SNAKE

I am a small woodland snake most at home under logs, stones, and leaf litter on the forest floor. You might see me curled up on a sunny rock warming up. Don't let my bright red underbelly frighten you - I am quite docile and rarely attempt to bite humans, but I might play opossum if I get scared.

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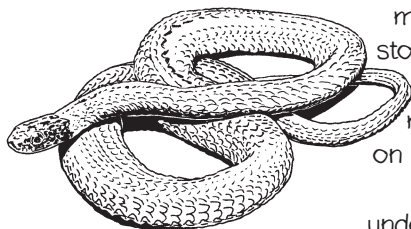


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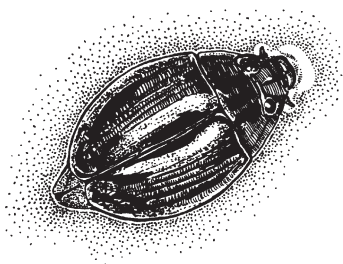
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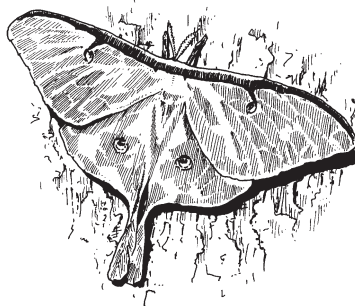
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## WHIRLIGIG BEETLE

I am a water beetle which whirls and twirls my way along the water. My hind legs paddle; my front legs catch insects trapped on the surface. When I dive under the water, I take an air bubble along so that I can breathe. Because I am a beetle, I chew my food when eating. I am different from a bug, which sucks juices out of its food.



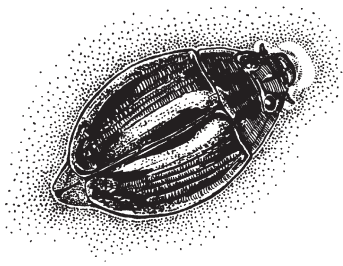
## LUNA MOTH

I am a beautiful green moth with a short life. I live only about a week. My job as a moth is to mate and die. I don't even have a mouth or stomach. When I was a caterpillar, I spent my time eating as many birch and aspen leaves as I possibly could so that I would metamorphose to survive the winter as a pupa in a cocoon.



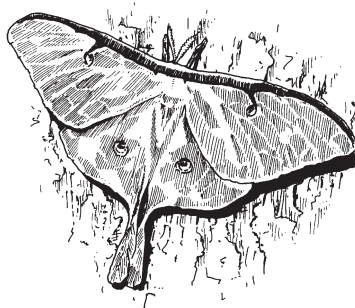
## MOSQUITO

I am about 1/4-inch long, with long legs, a pair of clear wings, a narrow body and long, slender sucking mouthparts. Before I become an adult I live in ponds, puddles, tree holes, swamps or other places where there is standing or slow moving water. Once I become an adult I must have a blood meal in order to develop eggs, but also sip nectar, honeydew and fruit juices.



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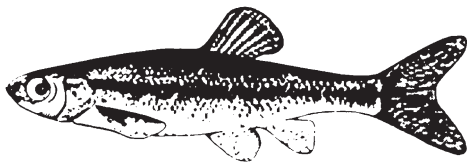
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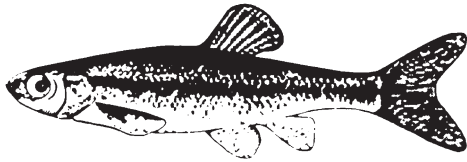
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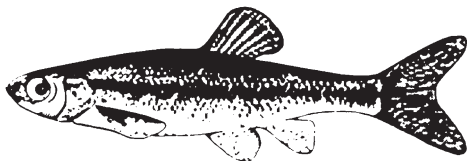
**FATHEAD  
MINNOW**

I spend my days swimming and eating small insects and other aquatic animals. I have to be quick because I am a favorite food for larger predators such as the northern pike and the walleye.



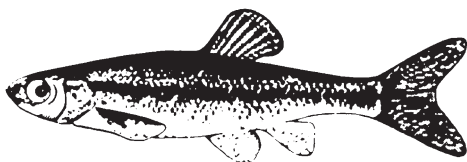
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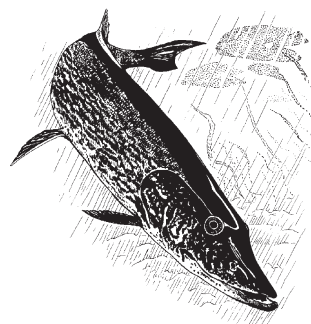
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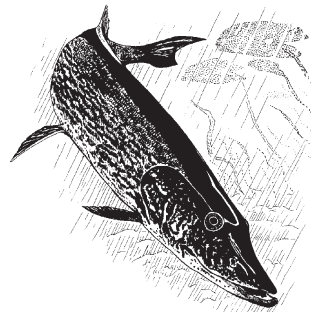
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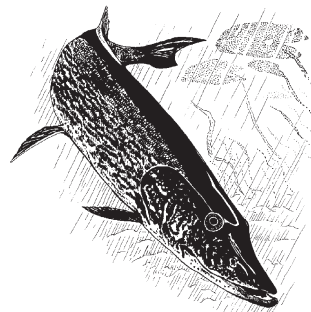
**NORTHERN  
PIKE**

I am a long slender fish and am the largest, and most voracious, predator of northern waters. I prefer to hang out in shallow, weedy, clear waters in lakes and marshes and slow streams. I will ambush my prey from weedy cover, seizing other fish with needlelike teeth. I also dine on frogs, crayfish, mice, muskrats, and ducklings.



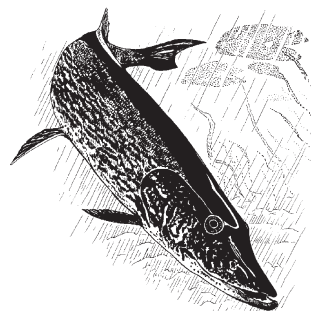
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